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October 10, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATIONCommissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Application of Nicholas V. NECHITAILO, Dean J. RATTAZZI, Matthew SOLTIS, Michael ROSSI
METHOD AND APPARATUS TO REDUCE VARIATION OF EXCESS FIBER LENGTH IN BUFFER TUBES OF FIBER OPTIC CABLES
Assignee: ALCATEL
Our Ref. A7909

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above including 82 sheets of the specification, including the claims and abstract, and 39 sheets of drawings. The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment will be submitted at a later date.

Prior to examination, please consider the following Preliminary Amendment.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>83</u> - 20	=	<u>63</u>	x	\$18.00	=	\$1134.00
Independent claims	<u>7</u> - 3	=	<u>4</u>	x	\$84.00	=	\$336.00
Base Fee							\$740.00

TOTAL FEE \$2210.00

Please charge the statutory filing fee of \$2210.00 to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 and any petitions for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from December 20, 2000 based on US Provisional Application No. 60/256,454.

Respectfully submitted,
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,
MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

By:

Brian W. Hannon
Registration No. 32,778

JC821 U.S. PTO
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